

**MAINE FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 6, 2006**  
***(Approved on December 4, 2007)***

Chair Jeffrey Cammack called the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission to order at 1:02 pm in Florian Hall, Maine Department of Public Safety Building, 45 Commerce Drive, Augusta. Members present included Jay Bradshaw, Representative Richard Brown, Chief Jeffrey Cammack, Chief John Dean, Chief Kenneth Desmond, Geoffrey Maker, Ed Marks (for David Niklaus), Alex McPhedran, Vicki Schmidt, Charles Soltan, Leslie Wiles and Susan Pinette(staff). Members excused included Representative Patricia Blanchette, Senator Bruce Bryant, Representative Robert Duplessie, Gerry Gay, Ron Green, Edward Johnston, Senator Richard Nass and Harty Norris. Stephan Bunker, Chief Darrel Fournier, Charlie Jacobs and David Wacker were absent.

***A motion by Ken Desmond, seconded by Alex McPhedran, to accept the October 2, 2006 meeting minutes as amended.*** The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

The Spring Conference 2007 committee updated the Fire Commission on their progress. The 2007 conference is scheduled for Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at the Augusta Civic Center. Presentations will be offered on the following six topics- fire and EMS, pandemic flu, ventilation (hands on), cyanide gases, highway safety (traffic control), and residential sprinklers. Initial plans are to offer three workshops per day on a rotating basis and limiting the time between presentations.

The Training Facilities Committee (Task Force) reported on their recent visit to the Brunswick Naval Air Station (BNAS). Members of the committee met with the Brunswick Land Reuse Authority (BLRA) representative on October 18<sup>th</sup> in Brunswick. The BLRA is responsible for developing a reuse plan for BNAS. The original task force has agreed to remain together and work with the Fire Commission on this process. The committee recommended that the Fire Commission move forward and add BNAS as a candidate for the location of a proposed state training facility. The Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) also supports the Fire Commission in moving forward with this process. Members reviewed a draft of a letter to the BLRA stating the Fire Commission interest in BNAS as a future site for a state training facility. Fire Commission members also inquired whether the committee would be reviewing the status of satellite training facilities.

***A motion by Charlie Soltan, seconded by Dick Brown, that the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission approves the letter dated November 2, 2006 and send to the Brunswick Land Reuse Authority.*** The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Woods of the Caribou Fire Department has agreed to participate on the Residential Sprinkler Committee. The committee expects to form work groups (i.e. codes, insurance, SFMO, municipal representatives) throughout the next several months. In addition to emphasizing the benefits of residential sprinklers, the committee plans to work with the Truss Construction Committee with their educational program.

### Old Business

Fire Commission members discussed the request of the Maine Juvenile Fire Safety Collaborative (MJFSC) to support their grant application proposal. The MJFSC's mission is to "reduce fire-related tragedies through assessment, intervention and education". Fire Commission members agreed to send a letter of support.

At the October meeting Fire Commission members discussed a letter from Rebecca Wyke, Commissioner of the Department of Administration and Financial Services regarding a code of ethics. The Governor had directed Commissioner Wyke to prepare legislation that "will require each component unit or related organization of State government to develop its own code of conduct and ethics". A sample of the code of ethics adopted by the Executive Branch was also emailed to Fire Commission members. Charlie Soltan volunteered to review the current code of ethics and to draft a proposal specifically appropriate to the Fire Commission. Members reviewed this draft copy of the conduct and ethics and agreed to consider adopting it as part of the bylaws under "conflict of interest" at the December meeting. The Fire Commission's bylaws (revised 11/2005) state:

### ARTICLE VII- AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended or revised at any regular or special meeting by a majority vote of the members present, subject to the 7 vote minimum requirement pursuant to Article IV, section 4, provided that any proposed amendment or revision shall have been presented to the Fire Commission members at its previous regular meeting.

***A motion by John Dean, seconded by Ken Desmond, that the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission considers incorporating the proposed Code of Conduct and Ethics in the Fire Commission bylaws and take a formal vote on the proposal at the December meeting.*** The motion passed unanimously.

Fire Commission members discussed plans for the Maine Fire Service Day at the State House scheduled Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> from 9am –1pm. Due to space limitations, members agreed to divide tables between organizations and exhibits. Members agreed they wanted to use this opportunity to educate legislators about Maine's fire service, the Fire Commission and issues (residential sprinklers, truss construction, safe cigarettes for example.) Copies of the Training Facilities report will also be available. Other ideas included color guards, morning prayers led by the Fire Champlain, and playing/singing of the National Anthem and inviting Governor Baldacci. Continental-style refreshments will be offered.

#### New Business

Fire Commission members discussed the upcoming election and potential effects on the membership of the Fire Commission. House of Representatives members Bob Duplessie (termed out) and Dick Brown will not return to the Maine Legislature and therefore their terms on the Fire Commission will expire. Members suggested and discussed possible candidates to suggest to the new Speaker of the House.

Members also discussed the 2007 legislative session and potential legislation. A new bill to clarify that blue lights are to be on fire department vehicles and not on personal vehicles has been proposed for the upcoming session.

With no further business to come before the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission, Chair Cammack adjourned the meeting at 2:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Pinette

### Meeting Schedule and Dates of Interest

<u>Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup></u>	MEETING	Florian Hall	1:00pm
<u>Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup></u>	FIRE CAUCUS	State House	12Noon
<u>Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup></u>	MEETING	State House	1:00pm
<u>Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup></u>	Fire Service Day	State House	9am-1pm
<u>Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup></u>	FIRE CAUCUS	State House	12Noon
<u>Monday, February 5<sup>th</sup></u>	MEETING	State House	1:00pm
<u>Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup></u>	FIRE CAUCUS	State House	12Noon
<u>Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup></u>	MEETING	State House	1:00pm
<u>Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup></u>	Spring Conference	ACC **	All Day
<u>Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup></u>	Legislative Reception	ACC **	4pm-7pm
<u>Tuesday, March 20<sup>th</sup></u>	Spring Conference	ACC **	All Day

\*\* Augusta Civic Center